

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MONTRE 00905 272154Z

63

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT E-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 IO-10 L-03 /042 W

----- 079771

P 272033Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6332

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTREAL 0905

FROM USREP ICAO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO

SUBJ: ICAO - RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT/COUNCIL

1. USMISSION HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM PRES/COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO REP/COUNCIL, TEXT FOLLOWS: "THE SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL SESSIONS IN 1974, AND THE TIME LIMITS ESTABLISHED IN RULE 6 A) OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE REGARDING ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL, REQUIRED THE COUNCIL TO DEAL WITH THE SUBJECT DURING THE COUNCIL PHASE OF ITS 81ST SESSION (MARCH-APRIL 1974) ON THE BASIS OF C-WP/5927 PREPARED ON 9 JANUARY 1974. SINCE ONE OF THE CONDITIONS OF RULE 6 A) IS THAT THE COMMUNICATION TO STATES MUST "STATE WHETHER THE PRESIDENT THEN HOLDING OFFICE IS WILLING TO STAND FOR RE-ELECTION", I HAD TO INDICATE AT THE END OF 1973 WHAT MY POSITION WAS IN THAT REGARD. ALTHOUGH I HAD SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT MAKING MYSELF AVAILABLE, I DECIDED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE AT THE TIME THERE WERE PROSPECTS THAT THE COMING ASSEMBLY SESSION WOULD BE DIFFICULT; THE COUNCIL, LAST OCTOBER, HONOURED ME ONCE MORE BY RE-ELECTING ME.

ALMOST A YEAR AND A HALF HAS NOW ELAPSED SINCE I HAD TO MAKE THAT DECISION. IN THE MEANTIME, I HAVE COME TO THE FIRM CONCLUSION THAT I MUST LEAVE THE PRESIDENCY BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF MY TERM, AND I THINK IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE ORGANIZATION THAT MY SUCCESSOR TAKE OFFICE WELL BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY IN 1977. I AM ASKING, THEREFORE, THAT DURING THE PRESENT SESSION

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MONTRE 00905 272154Z

THE COUNCIL KINDLY START TAKING THE NECESSARY MEASURES AIMED

AT ELECTING A NEW PRESIDENT DURING THE 86TH SESSION (SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 1975).

I WISH TO STATE CLEARLY THAT MY DECISION IS IN NO WAY MOTIVATED BY ANY KIND OF DISSATISFACTION. ON THE CONTRARY, I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE THAT ANY INTERNATIONAL OFFICIAL HAS HAD THE CHANCE OF DISCHARGING HIS RESPONSIBILITIES IN A MORE INTERESTING AND REWARDING ENVIRONMENT. THE COUNCIL HAS ALWAYS SHOWN CONFIDENCE IN ME AND THE SAME IS TRUE OF THE AIR NAVIGATION COMMISSION, WHICH I HAD THE HONOUR TO CHAIR IN THE PAST. ALL REPRESENTATIVES (AND SINCE I TOOK OFFICE MORE THAN 150 HAVE SAT IN THE COUNCIL) HAVE BEEN MOST CO-OPERATIVE, AND THE SECRETARIES GENERAL AND MEMBERS OF THE SECRETARIAT HAVE ALWAYS RESPONDED TO MY REQUESTS IN A DEDICATED MANNER. ALSO, I HAVE ENJOYED EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH CIVIL AVIATION AND OTHER AUTHORITIES IN OUR CONTRACTING STATES.

FROM MY FIRST DAY AS PRESIDENT, I GAVE THE INTERESTS OF THE ORGANIZATION FIRST PRIORITY IN MY LIFE. THE GROWTH OF ICAO SINCE APRIL 1957 (70 MEMBERS THEN, 129 TODAY) AND THE EVOLUTION OF ITS ACTIVITIES GAVE RISE TO MANY PROBLEMS. I ALWAYS FACED THEM WITH ENTHUSIASM AND NEVER FELT DISCOURAGED OR PESSIMISTIC, EVEN IF THE RESULTS AT TIMES DID NOT COINCIDE WITH MY OWN VIEWS. MY FAITH IN THE WISDOM OF CIVIL AVIATION PEOPLE NEVER FALTERED; THEY ARE THE ONES WHO HAVE MADE ICAO SO SUCCESSFUL AND PRODUCTIVE AND I TRUST THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO CONTROL OUR WORK, WITHOUT INTERFERENCE FROM NON-AVIATION CIRCLES. IN SUMMARY, I CAN SAY THAT IT IS A FACT THAT EVERY DAY OF MY TENURE HAS BROUGHT ME SATISFACTION (THE ONLY EXCEPTION BEING THE FORTUNATELY INFREQUENT OCCASIONS WHEN REASONS OF PROTOCOL OBLIGED ME TO MAKE SPEECHES).

IN THE LIGHT OF WHAT I SAY ABOVE YOU MAY PERHAPS WONDER WHY I WISH TO LEAVE. THE REASONS IS THAT LAST APRIL MARKED 18 YEARS FOR ME IN MY PRESENT POSITION, AND BEFORE THAT TIME I HAD SERVED 10 YEARS IN THE AIR NAVIGATION COMMISSION (8 AS CHAIRMAN). THAT MAKES IT 28 YEARS DEDICATED TO ICAO, WHICH IS MORE THAN HALF MY PRESENT 55 YEARS OF AGE. I TOOK OVER AS PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL WHEN I WAS 37 YEARS OLD AND ALREADY HAD 20 YEARS OF SERVICE BEHIND ME IN THE ARGENTINE ADMINISTRATION. TIME PASSES FOR ALL OF US.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MONTRE 00905 272154Z

SOONER OR LATER A CHANGE IN THE PRESIDENCY HAS TO TAKE PLACE AND I SINCERELY BELIEVE THAT NOW IS THE RIGHT TIME. AS I SAID BEFORE, I WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF THE STEPS TO ELECT A NEW PRESIDENT ARE STARTED BEFORE THE END OF THE PRESENT SESSION. OF COURSE, I SHALL BE READY TO SERVE UNTIL MY SUCCESSOR TAKES OFFICE; YOU CAN REST ASSURED THAT UNTIL THAT MOMENT I SHALL CONTINUE TO DEDICATE MYSELF FULLY TO THE ORGANIZATION, ACT AS USUAL AND BE THE SAME PERSON I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN, GOOD OR BAD AS THAT MAY BE."

2. WALTER BINAGHI HAD A FRANK DISCUSSION WITH USREP PRIOR TO ISSUING ABOVE LETTER. STATES HIS CHOICE FOR NEXT PRES/COUNCIL BUT IN SO DOING REQUESTED INFORMATION BE KEPT MOST CONFIDENTIAL. THEREFORE, MISSION REQUESTS SOURCE BE PROTECTED. MR. BINAGHI RECOMMENDS DR. ASSAD KOTAITE BE ELECTED AS NEXT PRES/COUNCIL. HE ADVISED THAT HE HAS DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH DR. KOTAITE AND THAT DR. KOTAITE WILL ACCEPT NOMINATION IF IT IS OFFERED WELL IN ADVANCE OF NEXT REGULAR ICAO ASSEMBLY. MR. BINAGHI FEELS THAT DR. KOTAITE WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND POSSESSES THE BACKGROUND AND SKILLS NECESSARY TO DIRECT THE ACTIVITIES OF COUNCIL. HE EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT ANYONE FROM OUTSIDE COULD BRING LEVEL OF EXPERTISE AND COMPETENCE TO POSITION THAT DR. KOTAITE POSSESSES. HE STATED THAT HE HOPES US WILL SUPPORT DR. KOTAITE'S SELECTION. HE EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE TOWARDS GOVERNMENT OF US IN MAKING USREP AVAILABLE TO SERVE AS FIRST VICE PRES/COUNCIL DURING THIS MOST IMPORTANT PHASE OF ICAO ACTIVITIES. HE FRANKLY STATED THAT HE HAD GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO SELECTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO SERVE AS FIRST VICE PRES/COUNCIL DURING CHANGE-OVER PERIOD AND WAS GRATIFIED THAT HIS SELECTION WILL BE SERVING AT THE PROPER TIME. (SERVING IN THIS CAPACITY WILL PUT USREP IN STRONG POSITION DURING SELECTION OF PRES AND IF DR. KOTAITE IS ELECTED, THE SELECTION OF NEXT SECGEN.)

3. IT IS EXPECTED COUNCIL WILL TAKE NECESSARY ACTION DURING CURRENT SESSION TO PROVIDE FOR SELECTION OF A NEW PRES IN 86TH SESSION. THIS SHOULD PROVIDE SUFFICIENT TIME FOR US TO CONSIDER ALL ASPECTS OF HIS, AND POSSIBLY SECGEN'S REPLACEMENT. THOUGHT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO POSSIBLE US CANDIDATE TO FILL POSITION OF SECGEN.

HARPER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING CHAIRMAN, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MONTRE00905
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750185-0310
From: MONTREAL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750517/aaaaaozk.tel
Line Count: 146
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <26 SEP 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ICAO - RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT/COUNCIL
TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006